

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An undiluted solution of a hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, wherein said undiluted solution is an aqueous solution with a pH value in the range of from 4.5 to 7.0, wherein said solution comprises 5 to 25% by weight of an anionic surfactant, 0.5 to 20% by weight of an amphoteric surfactant, 4 to 6% by weight of a nonionic surfactant and optionally an antiseptic.

2. (Currently Amended) The undiluted solution of a hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 1, wherein the anionic surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of sec-alkane sulfonate, C₈₋₁₈ alkyl sulfate (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), polyoxyethylene alkyl sulfate (an average number of added moles is 1 to 4) alkyl sulfate having from 1 to 4 ethylene oxide added moles and an alkyl group of from 8 to 18 carbon atoms (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), α -olefin sulfonate having an alkyl group of from 10 to 18 carbon atoms (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 10 to 18), and C₈₋₁₈ alkyl benzene sulfonate (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18); the amphoteric surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of coconut oil fatty acid amide propyl betaine, C₈₋₁₈ alkyl dimethyl acetic acid betaine (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), and [[an]] C₈₋₁₈ alkyl dimethyl amine oxide (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group

~~is 8 to 18~~; the nonionic surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene undecyl alcohol having an average number of ethylene oxide added moles of from 3 to 12 (an average number of added moles is 3 to 12) undecyl alcohol, polyoxyethylene undecyl alcohol C₈₋₁₈ alkyl ether having [()] an average number of ethylene oxide added moles of from added moles is 3 to 12 [()] alkyl ether (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), and polyoxyethylene nonyl phenyl ether having [()] an average number of ethylene oxide added moles [(is)] of from 3 to 12 nonyl phenyl ether; and the antiseptic is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of benzoate, an isothiazoline based antiseptic, a thiazoline based antiseptic and a triazine based antiseptic.

3. (Previously Presented) The undiluted solution of a hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 1, wherein the anionic surfactant, the amphoteric surfactant, the nonionic surfactant and optionally the antiseptic are dissolved in water, and then the pH of the solution is adjusted in the range of 4.5 to 7.0 using an organic acid.

4. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 1 with water.

5. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 1 with water to from 3 to 15 times.

6. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity maintaining agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 1 with water to from 30 to 70 times.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film, which comprises steps of: preparing an undiluted solution of a hydrophilicity maintaining or promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, wherein said undiluted solution is an aqueous solution with pH in the range of from 4.5 to 7.0, wherein said solution comprises 5 to 25% by weight of an anionic surfactant, ~~0.5 to 2.0%~~ 0.5 to 20% by weight of an amphoteric surfactant, 4 to 6% by weight of a nonionic surfactant and, optionally, an antiseptic; diluting the undiluted solution with water; and applying the dilute solution onto a polysilazane-containing coating film.

8. (Previously Presented) The undiluted solution of a hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 2, wherein the anionic surfactant, the amphoteric surfactant, the nonionic surfactant and optionally the antiseptic are dissolved in water, and then the pH of the solution is adjusted in the range of 4.5 to 7.0 using an organic acid.

9. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 2 with water.

Attorney's Docket: 2002JP302Serial No.: 10/506,874Response to Final Rejection mailed 09/06/2007

10. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 2 with water to from 3 to 15 times.

11. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity maintaining agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 2 with water to from 30 to 70 times.

12. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity maintaining and promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 3 with water.

13. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 3 with water to from 3 to 15 times.

14. (Previously Presented) A hydrophilicity maintaining agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, which is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution described in claim 3 with water to from 30 to 70 times.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 7, wherein the anionic surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of sec-alkane sulfonate, C_{8-18} alkyl sulfate ~~(a number of carbon~~

~~atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), polyoxyethylene C₈₋₁₈ alkyl sulfate having~~
~~[[()]] an average of 1 to 4 number of ethylene oxide added moles is 1 to 4) alkyl~~
~~sulfate (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), α -olefin~~
~~sulfonate having an alkyl group of from 10 to 18 carbon atoms (a number of~~
~~carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 10 to 18), and C₈₋₁₈ alkyl benzene sulfonate~~
~~(a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18); the amphoteric~~
~~surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of coconut~~
~~oil fatty acid amide propyl betaine, C₈₋₁₈ alkyl dimethyl acetic acid betaine (a~~
~~number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18), and an C₈₋₁₈ alkyl~~
~~dimethyl amine oxide (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8 to 18);~~
~~the nonionic surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting~~
~~of polyoxyethylene undecyl alcohol having [[()]] an average of 3 to 12 number~~
~~of ethylene oxide added moles is 3 to 12) undecyl alcohol, polyoxyethylene~~
~~alkyl ether [[()]] having an average of 3 to 12 number of ethylene oxide added~~
~~moles is 3 to 12) alkyl ether (a number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 8~~
~~to 18), and polyoxyethylene nonyl phenyl ether [[()]] having an average of 3 to~~
~~12 number of ethylene oxide added moles is 3 to 12) nonyl phenyl ether; and~~
~~the antiseptic is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of~~
~~benzoate, an isothiazoline based antiseptic, a thiazoline based antiseptic and~~
~~a triazine based antiseptic.~~

16. (Previously Presented) The method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 7, wherein the dilute solution is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution with water to from 3 to 15 times.

Attorney's Docket: 2002JP302Serial No.: 10/506.874Response to Final Rejection mailed 09/06/2007

17. (Previously Presented) The method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 7, wherein the dilute solution is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution with water to from 30 to 70 times.